

Name Change Puzzles Students

Some on CSUH campus wish president had consulted them

By Daniel Araujo, STAFF WRITER

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HAYWARD -- What's really in a name?

That's what students and alumni at Cal State Hayward are trying to figure out after President Norma Rees announced earlier this week that she is recommending to the CSU trustees that the name of the campus be changed to California State University, East Bay.

Hace Safdari, a 19-year-old Cal State Hayward student, doesn't think changing the school's name is a great idea.

"I don't think that it's a good idea because of the history (of the school) as well as the fact that there are other universities in the East Bay already."

Other students who were approached on the campus either declined to comment or had heard nothing of the subject. After being told, some seemed a little shocked by the impending proposition.

"I think that it sounds horrible," Roshawn Campbell, a junior at the university, said. "It sounds tacky and unprofessional."

Students seem particularly disturbed that Rees didn't see fit to seek their input in the name-change matter, which was discussed campus wide by focus groups, staff and faculty members.

Rees said it would have been counterproductive and meaningless to include the opinions of the students in the discussion.

"It doesn't surprise me," Campbell said. "I don't think that (the school's administration) has a clue about what's going on. They don't know us, and they don't want to know how we feel about it."

Senior Veronica Aguilar and graduate student Veronica Vasquez also offered opinions that mirrored other students'.

"It's stupid," Vasquez said. "I don't think that there is any need or purpose for it. I think that they should concentrate more on the community."

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